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THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM :—" As regards expenditure in Police department in Salem district in the year 1945–46 figures regarding the expenditure on Prohibition are not available as the records have been destroyed, due to efflux of time. Separate figures for the year 1952–53 are not available consequent on the merger of the Prohibition staff with the regular Police.

" The expenditure on the enforcement of Prohibition in Chingleput district during 1952–53 was Rs. 4,68,112–14–2. The expenditure in connection with the administration of Excise revenue during 1945–46 was Rs. 86,822–6–1. (Prohibition was introduced in Chingleput district only with effect from 2nd October 1948) ".

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is it the policy of this Government to destroy records even before the lapse of ten years. Do the Police department destroy the records relating to the acts of criminals even within the short period of ten years? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may give notice of a separate question. Questions over."

[*Note*.—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* POLICE FIRING NEAR NADUVATTAM MOSQUE IN KOZHIKODE TALUK. 3-30 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member Sri T. C. Narayanan Nambiar has given notice of an adjournment motion. The hon. Member Sri K. P. Gopalan also told me that he had a talk with the Hon. the Minister for Finance regarding this matter and that the Finance Minister wanted to make a statement. The adjournment motion reads as follows :—

'This House stands adjourned to discuss an urgent matter of public importance, viz., the failure on the part of the Government to take suitable measures to avoid communal tension resulting in opening fire against a mob by the Armed Police near Naduvattam Mosque in Kozhikode taluk leading to loss of life to two persons and injuries to many on 28th of March, 1954.'

I wish to know what the Government have to say on this matter."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, the following report has been received from the District Magistrate of Malabar by telephonic message :—

' It seems that for some time past (about a month) there has been a convention or agreement between the Muslims and the Hindus that processions would be allowed to pass along the road in front of the Naduvattam Mosque (five miles from Kozhikode) during non-prayer hours. This agreement or convention was disliked by certain Muslims and there has been some propaganda against it. Information was received that Muslims from outside were being brought into Kozhikode in order to obstruct the particular Hindu procession that was to pass along on the 28th of March 1954. In view of the information received that an armed mob was collecting roundabout the mosque, an M.S.P. company was sent to the place yesterday. As anticipated, a big crowd of Muslims armed with knives, etc., took up their position, both within and outside the mosque, with the express intention of

preventing the Hindu procession from passing. It is said that the riotous mob had two firearms with them, but this has not been verified. The mob was shouting slogans to the effect that the procession would be allowed to pass only over their dead bodies and that they were prepared to prevent it at all costs.

' The Hindu procession that came along was stopped about two furlongs from the mob and the Police tried to persuade the Muslims to disperse. Their attempts were unsuccessful and so, the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police were informed. Both of them came to the spot and repeatedly requested the riotous mob to disperse, but this was of no avail. The Police then tried to push back the mob. There was stone-throwing by the mob. A certain amount of confusion must have developed then because it is said that some of the members of the mob caught hold of or attempted to catch hold of firearms of some of the policemen. Anyway, the situation being very grave, the District Magistrate had to order fire after some attempts were made at a *lathi* charge. Four rounds of ball cartridge were fired and this had the desired effect. The mob dispersed and the procession was taken through. Altogether, eight people were injured (some of these may have been injured as a result of *lathi* charge) of whom three ran away from the place, apparently because the injuries were not very serious. The remaining five were taken to the hospital and, of these, two died last night. Another is said to be in a serious condition while the others are progressing satisfactorily. On the Police side, the Deputy Superintendent of Police received three stone-hits and the injuries sustained by him were simple in nature.'

" The situation is now quiet and there is no reason to apprehend further trouble. The Police are standing by.

" The District Magistrate will be sending a very detailed report. After the receipt of this information, the Hon. the Chief Minister has sent the following message to the Collector :—

' I did not think that your capacity for peace-making and firm dealing with mischievous elements will so soon be put to trial. I am writing this from my bed after reading the news in the papers and without seeing any official report. You may read this to the important leaders.

' I was pained to read about the incidents leading to the Police firing at Kozhikode. The question of who started the provocation is interesting but unimportant. We may be sure that there will always be mischief-makers who have not learnt the lesson of the times, that we are up against those who hate the idea of God and religion and that people of all faiths and forms should unite and defend religion, be it of any denomination. The more important point is to resist such provocation and avoid falling into this old trap of music and processions. We had all thought that this issue of mosque and music had gone completely out of fashion among the intelligent people of Malabar, as elsewhere. Pride is the silly issue always involved and not worship or prayer of God. There can be no true worship or prayer on either side when the man is

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preparing to quarrel. All this had, fortunately, gone out of vogue for some time past and people have taken to thinking on different lines. But some people have started the mischief and gullible men have fallen into the trap. Besides some unthinking mischief-makers, there are some who do not like the present policy of even-handed justice that is followed by Government and who desire to create excitement among Hindus or Muslims according to their affiliation and notions of right and wrong. We should beware of these men who will lead people into difficulties and disappear thereafter.

'I hope that leaders of Hindus and Muslims in Malabar, with traditions of centuries of peaceful living side by side, carrying on worship and prayer and leading good lives without any quarrels or conflicts, will meet and advise the people and smoothen trifling conflicts and restore calm thinking, mutual respect and orderly life. I hope this incident will go into the world of forgotten things.'

"As soon as the detailed report is received, if any further statement has to be made, I shall make it."

MR. SPEAKER :—"Let us give time to the Hon. Minister. He can give a further report tomorrow or day after tomorrow."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—"Is this going to be discussed tomorrow or to-day? I have to submit certain things in connection with this incident."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—"I think we should await further reports from the District Magistrate."

MR. SPEAKER :—"After a further report is received, I shall consider whether we should have a debate and what kind of debate we should have. I shall then consider whether I should admit this adjournment motion or allow a half-hour debate."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—"As the hon. Members were anxious, I thought I could get an immediate report and I got it by telephone. Let us await further reports. Afterwards, if anything is necessary, we may consider."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—"இந்த ரிபோர்ட்டை சபை முன் வைத்ததற்காக கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களை நான் பாராட்டுகிறேன். தகராறு ஏற்பட்ட இடங்களில் அவசியமான நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதாகவும் ரிபோர்ட்டிலிருந்து வெளியாகிறது. இருந்தாலும் அங்கு எடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் நடவடிக்கைகளின் நிலைமையை குறித்து விவாதிக்கவேண்டுமென்று இந்த சபையில் சில அங்கத்தினர்கள் அபிப்பிராயப்படுகிறார்கள். ஆகையால் இது விஷயமாக முழு விபரமும் சேகரித்த பிறகு அதைப் பற்றி இந்தச் சபையில் விவாதிப்பதற்கு அவகாசம் ஒதுக்கப்படவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER :—"I shall give my consideration to it tomorrow."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—"I would request the hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition not to pre-judge the issue."

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SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, I think the adjournment motion is still there and is not ruled out."

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is there; it has not been ruled out."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" இன்னொரு விஷயம். ஒரு வாரத்துக்கு முன்பு நானும் என் நண்பர் ராமலிங்கம் அவர்களும் இரண்டு முக்கியமான பிரச்னைகளைப்பற்றி short notice கேள்விகள் கொடுத்திருக்கிறோம். முதலில் நாங்கள் adjournment motion-க்குத்தான் நோட்டீஸ் கொடுத்திருந்தோம். ஆனால் தாங்கள் அவைகளை short notice கேள்விகளாகத்தான் அனுமதித்தீர்கள். இது கனம் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கும் தெரியும். ஆனால் இன்று வரை அந்தக் கேள்விகளுக்குப் பதில் வரவில்லை. ஆபீஸில் விசாரித்ததில் நாளையும் பதில் வருவதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. அது சம்பந்தமாக நிலைமை என்ன? அந்தக் கேள்விகள் என்ன ஆயிற்று என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have seen the question and passed the answer also. Perhaps it is under transmission to this office."

MR. SPEAKER :—" It will be taken up tomorrow."

3-40 p.m. * SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" நான் 2 நாட்களுக்கு முன்பு பாண்டிச்சேரி எல்லையோரங்களில் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் தகராறுகளைப்பற்றி விவாதிப்பதற்கு ஒரு ஒத்திவைப்புப் பிரேரணையைக் கொண்டுவந்தேன். அது விஷயமாக மேற்கொண்டு ரிபோர்ட் வந்தவுடன் அந்த ரிபோர்ட் இச்சபை முன்பு சமர்ப்பிக்கப்பட்டு இந்த விஷயம் விவாதத்திற்கு எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்படுமா என்பதைப்பற்றி தெரியவில்லை."

MR. SPEAKER :—" கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள்தான் இது விஷயமாக ரிபோர்ட் வந்தவுடன் இச்சபை முன்பு சமர்ப்பிப்பதாகச் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்களே."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Even there, I stated that we are awaiting further reports from the departments. I have not yet received them. As soon as further reports are received, if they are really worthwhile placing before the House, I shall certainly do so."

III.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR FURTHER EXPENDITURE IN THE SECOND SIX MONTHS OF THE YEAR 1953-54.

MR. SPEAKER :—" Let us now take up the Supplementary Demands. Regarding this matter, I wish to know whether the House wants to take up Demand by Demand for discussion or only one Demand. Dr. K. B. Menon told me that he wanted the Medical Demand to be taken up first. I wish to know whether the Hon. the Leader of the House has got to say anything in the matter."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The Government have no objection to any Demand being taken up first."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Then the Hon. Minister must move a motion under rule 22."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" We shall take up the Medical Demand, Sir. Let hon. Member Dr. K. B. Menon initiate the discussion on this Demand."